

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims in this application.

Claim Listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
determining services accessible via a subscription having an account and at least a first limit in a communication system;
defining at least a first set of services and a second set of services to be used with the subscription, each set of services defining services accessible via the subscription;
using in the communication system access point names to define where and how to connect the user of the subscription;
defining a first access point name for the first set of services;
defining a second access point name for the second set of services;
comparing the balance of the account with the first limit;
selecting, in response to the result of the comparison, an access point name to be used with this connection ~~in response to the result of the comparison~~, wherein
~~selecting~~ the first access point name is selected when the balance of the account does not reach the first limit; and
~~selecting~~ the second access point name is selected when the balance reaches the first limit.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, the communication system comprising a firewall; and
the method further comprising defining accessible services via a set of services by defining at least a firewall configuration for the set of services.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, the method further comprising defining accessible services via a set of services by defining at least a range of allowed addresses for the set of services.

5. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, the method further comprising indicating the set of services which is to be used by charging characteristics to be applied.

6. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, the second set of services comprising services free of charge.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, the second set of services being a subset of the first set of services.

8. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, the method further comprising informing the user of the subscription of the services accessible via the second set of services in response to using the second set of services.

9. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
the subscription is a postpaid subscription;
the first limit is the maximum allowed amount of the bill; and
the balance of the account indicates the amount of the bill to be charged from the subscription.

10. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
the subscription is a prepaid subscription;
the first limit is the preset minimum value for the account; and
the balance of the account indicates the amount of money the subscriber still has in use.

11. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein at least the second set of services comprises a deposition service.

12. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the depositing service utilizes authentication of the communication system when authenticating the one who wants to deposit.

13. (Currently Amended) A communication system providing a subscription with an account and at least a first limit, the communication system comprising:

a first node monitoring the balance of the account, wherein:

the communication system comprises memory for storing definitions of at least a first set of services associated with a first access point name and a second set of services associated with a second access point name to be used with the subscription, each set of services defining services accessible via the subscription; and

the communication system is arranged to compare the balance of the account with the first limit, ~~select, in response to the result of the comparison,~~ an access point name to be used with this connection ~~in response to the result of the comparison wherein, select~~ the first access point name is selected when the balance of the account does not reach the first limit; and ~~select~~ the second access point name is selected when the balance reaches the first limit.

14. (Previously Presented) A communication system as claimed in claim 13, wherein:

the first node is arranged to perform the comparison during connection activation and to indicate which set of services is to be used with the connection; and

in response to a connection with access to the first set of services to trigger deactivation of the connection when the balance reaches the first limit.

15. (Previously Presented) A communication system as claimed in claim 13, wherein: the communication system further comprises a second node maintaining subscription information including at least an indication indicating an allowed set of services for the subscription;

the first node is arranged to perform the comparison and in response to the balance reaching the first limit to direct the second node to set the second set of services as the allowed set of services and in response to the balance, not any more reaching the first limit after reaching

the first limit, to direct the second node to set the first set of services as the allowed set of services; and

the second node is arranged to send at least information on the allowed set of services as a part of the subscription information to the communication system during connection activation;

in response to a received direction from the first node to modify the first indication to correspond to the received direction; and in response to modifying the allowed set of services of an active connection to trigger deactivation of the connection.

16. (Previously Presented) A communication system as claimed in claim 15, wherein the subscription information maintained in the second node further includes at least identification information on the first and second set of services and the indication indicates which one of the sets of services is the allowed set of services.

17. (Previously Presented) A communication system as claimed in claim 13, wherein:

the communication system supports the General Packet Radio Service; and
the connection is activated by activating a PDP context.

18. (Currently Amended) A network node in a communication system providing a subscription with an account and at least a first limit, the network node being arranged to use access point names to define where and how to connect the user of the subscription and monitor the balance of the account, wherein:

the network node is arranged to

associate a first access point name with a first set of services, and a second access point name with ~~the~~ a second set of services, both sets of services defining services accessible via the subscription;

compare the balance of the account with the first limit;

select, in response to the result of the comparison, an access point name to be used with this connection ~~in response to the result of the comparison, wherein:~~

~~select~~ the first access point name is selected when the balance of the account does not reach the first limit; and

~~select~~ the second access point name is selected when the balance reaches the first limit.

19. (Currently Amended) A network node in a communication system providing a subscription with an account and at least a first limit, the network node being arranged to monitor the balance of the account, wherein:

the network node is arranged to
associate a first access point name with a first set of services and a second access point name with the second set of services, both sets of services accessible via the subscription;
communicate with a second network node;
compare the balance of the account with the first limit;
~~select in response to the result of the comparison,~~ an access point name to be used with this connection ~~in response to the result of the comparison, select,~~ wherein the first access point name is selected when the balance of the account does not reach the first limit; ~~select~~ the second access point name is selected when the balance reaches the first limit, and
indicate to the second network node the selected access point name.

20. (Previously Presented) A network node as claimed in claim 19, wherein the network node is arranged to indicate the selected access point name in response to the balance reaching the limit and in response to the balance not any more reaching the limit.

21. (Currently Amended) A network node in a communication system providing a subscription, wherein the network node is arranged to

store a first access point name used in the communication system to define where and how to connect to the user of the subscription;

provide access to a first set of services via a connection accessible to the subscription using the first access point name;

receive from the communication system an indication indicating the use of a second set of services for the connection, ~~certain set of services from among~~ at least two different sets of services defined for the subscription, ~~each set of said at least two different sets of services~~ defining services accessible via the subscription and the indication of the set of services being

received as an a second access point name used in the communication system to define where and how to connect the user of the subscription, and in response to receiving the indication to modify the stored first access point name with the received second access point name,
and
provide access only to services included in the indicated ~~certain~~ second set of services using the second access point name.

22. (Previously Presented) A network node as claimed in claim 21, wherein the network node is arranged, in response to receiving the indication, to inform the user of the subscription of the services accessible via the indicated certain set of services.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) A network node as claimed in claim 21, wherein the network node is an application server.

25. (Previously Presented) A method of determining services accessible via a subscription having an account and at least a predetermined first limit in a communication system, the method comprising:

maintaining definitions of at least a first set of services and a second set of services to be used with the subscription, each set of services defining services accessible via the subscription, the second set of services being a subset of the first set of services and comprising services which are not charged from the subscriber;

comparing, during connection activation, the balance of the account with the first limit;
deciding, during connection activation and on the basis of the comparison, which set of services, among said at least the first set of services and the second set of services, can be used;
using the first set of services when the balance of the account does not reach the first limit; and

using the second set of services when the balance reaches the first limit.

26. (Currently Amended) A processor comprising program code configuring a network element in a communication system to:

use access point names to define where and how to connect the user of the subscription
~~and monitor the balance of the account;~~

provide a subscription with an account and at least a first limit;

associate a first access point name with a first set of services, and a second access point
name with ~~the a~~ second set of services, both sets of services defining services accessible via the
subscription;

monitor ~~the a~~ balance of the account;

compare the balance with the first limit;

select, in response to the result of the comparison, an access point name to be used with
this connection in response to the result of the comparison, wherein;

~~select the first access point name~~ is selected when the balance of the account does not
reach the first limit; and

~~select the second access point name~~ is selected when the balance reaches the first limit.

27. (Currently Amended) A processor comprising program code configuring a
network element in a communication system to

use access point names to define where and how to connect the user of the subscription
~~and monitor the balance of the account;~~

provide a subscription with an account and at least a first limit, ~~monitor the balance of the
account;~~

associate a first access point name with a first set of services, and a second access point
name with ~~the a~~ second set of services, both sets of services defining services accessible via the
subscription;

communicate with a second network node;

compare the balance with the first limit;

select, in response to the result of the comparison, an access point name to be used with
this connection ~~in response to the result of the comparison~~ wherein;

~~select the first access point name when the balance of the account does not reach the first
limit; and~~

~~select the second access point name~~ is selected when the balance reaches the first limit;
and

indicate, in a form of the selected access point name to the second network node, which set of services from among at least two different sets of services defined for the subscription is the allowed set of services on the basis of said comparison.

28. (Previously Presented) A processor as claimed in claim 27, further comprising program code configuring the network element to indicate the allowed set of services in response to the balance reaching the limit and in response to the balance not any more reaching the limit.

29. (Currently Amended) A processor comprising program code configuring a network element in a communication system to:

provide a subscription,

store a first access point name used in the communication system to define where and how to connect the user of the subscription;

provide access to a first set of services accessible via a connection to the subscription using the first access point name;

receive from the communication system an indication indicating the use of a certain second set of services for the connection ~~from among at least two different sets of services defined for the subscription, each set of said at least two different sets of services defining services accessible via the subscription~~ and the indication of the set of services being received as ~~an a second~~ access point name used in the communication system to define where and how to connect the user of the subscription; and, in response to receiving the indication, to

modify the stored first access point name with the received second access point name,
and

~~provide, in response to receiving the indication, access only to services included in the indicated certain~~ second set of services using the second access point name.

30. (Previously Presented) A processor as claimed in claim 29, further comprising program code configuring the network element to, in response to receiving the indication, inform the user of the subscription of the services accessible via the indicated certain set of services.

31. (Previously Presented) A processor as claimed in claim 29, further comprising program code configuring the network element to receive an access point name as the indication

of the set of services, the access point name being used in the communication system to define where and how to connect the user of the subscription.

32. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium encoding a computer program of instructions for executing a computer process for determining services accessible via a subscription having an account and at least a first limit in a communication system, the process comprising:

defining at least a first set of services and a second set of services to be used with the subscription, each set of services defining services accessible via the subscription;

using in the communication system access point names to define where and how to connect the user of the subscription;

defining a first access point name for the first set of services;

defining a second access point name for the second set of services;

comparing the balance of the account with the first limit;

selecting, in response to the result of the comparison, an access point name to be used with this connection ~~in response to the result of the comparison~~, wherein

~~selecting~~ the first access point name is selected when the balance of the account does not reach the first limit; and

~~selecting~~ the second access point name is selected when the balance reaches the first limit.